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Attorney Docket No. DEM1P009

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Patent Application of: **Neal et al.**

Serial No. : **10/007,002**

Filed: **November 30, 2001**

For: **RULE RELAXATION AND SUBSET OPTIMIZATION SYSTEM**

Art Unit: 2161

Examiner: Unknown

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Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

October 3, 2002

Dear Sirs:

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Signed: Reba S. Senger

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FILED
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 AND 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants bring the following documents to the Examiner's attention in the referenced application.

1. U.S. Patent Number 6,094,641 to K. Ouimet et al. entitled "METHOD FOR INCORPORATING PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS INTO DEMAND MODELS."
2. U.S. Patent Number 6,078,893 to K. Ouimet et al. entitled "METHOD FOR STABILIZED TUNING OF DEMAND MODELS."
3. U.S. Patent Number 5,987,425 to Hartman et al. entitled "VARIABLE MARGIN PRICING SYSTEM."

4. U.S. Patent Number 5,878,400 to Carter, III entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PRICING PRODUCTS IN MULTI-LEVEL PRODUCT AND ORGANIZATIONAL GROUPS."
5. U.S. Patent Number 5,873,069 to Reuhl et al. entitled "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATIC UPDATING AND DISPLAY OF RETAIL PRICES."
6. U.S. Patent Number 5,822,736 to Hartman et al. entitled "VARIABLE MARGIN PRICING SYSTEM."
7. U.S. Patent Number 5,377,095 to Maeda et al. entitled "MERCHANTISE ANALYSIS SYSTEM WITH SALES DATA TABLE AND VARIOUS FUNCTIONS FOR PREDICTING THE SALE BY ITEM."
8. U.S. Patent Number 5,117,354 to Long et al. entitled "AUTOMATED SYSTEM FOR PRICING AND ORDERING CUSTOM MANUFACTURED PARTS."
9. U.S. Patent Number 6,032,125 to Ando et al. entitled "DEMAND FORECASTING METHOD, DEMAND FORECASTING SYSTEM, AND RECORDING MEDIUM."
10. U.S. Patent Number 6,009,407 to Garg entitled "INTEGRATED MARKETING AND OPERATIONS DECISIONS-MAKING UNDER MULTI-BRAND COMPETITION."
11. U.S. Patent Number 5,712,985 to Lee et al. entitled "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ESTIMATING BUSINESS DEMAND BASED ON BUSINESS INFLUENCES."

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12. U.S. Patent Number 6,125,355 to Bekaert et al. entitled "PRICING MODULE FOR FINANCIAL ADVISORY SYSTEM."
13. U.S. Patent Number 6,032,123 to Jameson entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ALLOCATING, COSTING, AND PRICING ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES."
14. U.S. Patent Number 6,029,139 to Cunningham et al. entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR OPTIMIZING PROMOTIONAL SALE OF PRODUCTS BASED UPON HISTORICAL DATA."
15. U.S. Patent Number 5,918,209 to Campbell et al. entitled "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DETERMINING MARGINAL VALUES FOR USE IN A REVENUE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM."
16. U.S. Patent Number 5,249,120 to Foley entitled "AUTOMATED MANUFACTURING COSTING SYSTEM AND METHOD."
17. U.S. Patent Number 6,308,162 to Ouimet et al. entitled "METHOD FOR CONTROLLED OPTIMIZATION OF ENTERPRISE PLANNING MODELS"
18. International Application Number PCT/US98/10521 to Ouimet et al. entitled "A METHOD FOR INCORPORATING PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS INTO DEMAND MODELS"
19. U.S. Patent Number 5,063,506 to Brockwell et al. entitled "COST OPTIMIZATION SYSTEM FOR SUPPLYING PARTS."

20. U.S. Patent Number 6,205,431 to T. Willemain et al. entitled "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FORECASTING INTERMITTENT DEMAND."
21. U.S. Patent Number 5,459,656 to R. Fields et al. entitled "BUSINESS METHOD PROJECTION SYSTEM AND METHOD."
22. U.S. Patent Number 5,299,115 to R. Fields et al. entitled "PRODUCT DEMAND SYSTEM AND METHOD."
23. U.S. Patent Number 5,799,286 to J. Morgan et al. entitled "AUTOMATED ACTIVITY-BASED MANAGEMENT SYSTEM."
24. U.S. Patent Number 5,732,401 to D. Conway entitled "ACTIVITY BASED COST TRACKING SYSTEMS."
25. "Report of Novelty Search" by Patentec, dated Feb, 9, 2001
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Citation of the above documents shall not be construed as an admission that the documents are necessarily prior art with respect to the referenced application. Furthermore, citation of the above documents shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This information Disclosure Statement is: (i) filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the above-referenced application, (ii) believed to be filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits or, (iii) believed to be filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under §1.114. Accordingly, it is

believed that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments with respect to the present application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned at (925) 570 8198.

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Respectfully submitted,


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